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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

FINJAN, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability
Company,

Plaintiff,

v.

SONICWALL INC., a Delaware Corporation,

Defendant.

Case No.: 5:17-cv-04467-BLF-VKD

**SONICWALL INC.'S MOTION TO
EXCLUDE DR. STRIEGEL'S
TECHNICAL APPORTIONMENT
OPINIONS AND DR. MCDUFF'S
RELIANCE THEREON
(MOTION IN LIMINE NO. 3)**

Date: March 18, 2021
Time: 1:30 PM
Courtroom: 3, 5th Floor
Judge: Hon. Beth Labson Freeman

REDACTED

TABLE OF REFERENCED EXHIBITS¹

September 4, 2020 Expert Report of DeForest McDuff, Ph.D	Ex. 1
September 3, 2020 Expert Report of Dr. Aaron Striegel	Ex. 6
November 3, 2020 Deposition Transcript of Aaron Striegel, Ph.D.	Ex. 9
Chart marked as Striegel Deposition Ex. No. 8	Ex. 19
SonicWall SonicWave and SonicPoint Series Wireless Access Points datasheet, bearing bates numbers SonicWall-Finjan_00365304 - SonicWall-Finjan_00365305 and SonicWall-Finjan_00365316 - SonicWall-Finjan_00365317, marked as Striegel Deposition Ex. No. 12	Ex. 20
SonicWall SuperMassive Series data sheet, bearing bates numbers SonicWall-Finjan_00000655 - SonicWall-Finjan_00000666, marked as Striegel Deposition Ex. No. 6	Ex. 21

¹All exhibits are attached to the Declaration of Jarrad M. Gunther.

SonicWall moves to exclude the technical apportionment opinions of Dr. Aaron Striegel (Ex. 6, at ¶¶ 86-123), pursuant to FRE 702 and *Daubert*. These opinions follow the following framework. Ignorant of the systems that Finjan actually accuses of infringement, Dr. Striegel grouped the accused products into ten “ [REDACTED] ” (Ex. 6 ¶ 87): (1) Supermassive/TZ SOHO Appliances/Network Security Appliances (“Gateways”); (2) SonicWave; (3) Advanced Gateway Security Suite (“AGSS”); (4) Comprehensive Gateway Security Suite (“CGSS”); (5) Capture ATP; (6) Gateway Antivirus, Antispyware, Intrusion Prevention, Application Intelligence and Control software bundle (“GAV/IPS”); (7); Email Security Appliances and Software; (8) Hosted Email; (9) Capture Client; and (10) WAN Acceleration Appliance (“WXA”). For each of these 10 categories, Dr. Striegel identified “ [REDACTED] ” *Id.* He then determined which top-level functions “overlap” with a given “Asserted Patent.” *Id.* at ¶ 114. Finjan’s damages expert (Dr. McDuff) then accepts Striegel’s opinions (Ex. 6 at App. D; *see also* Ex. 19) *in toto* and puts it into percentage form, *i.e.*, if Dr. Striegel opines that an accused product is in a “category” that has 12 top-level functions and that 5 of the functions overlap with a patent, then Dr. McDuff applies an apportionment factor of 41.7% (5/12) to the products’ revenue for that patent. Ex. 1 at Attachment E-1. This is a legally insufficient apportionment methodology for the reasons described below.

I. Legal Standard

The “Supreme Court made clear that ‘when a *patent is for an improvement*, ... the patentee must show in what particulars his improvement has *added to the usefulness* of the machine or contrivance. He must separate its results distinctly from those of the other parts, . . .’ In other words, the patent holder should only be compensated for the approximate incremental benefit derived from his invention.” *Ericsson, Inc. v. D-Link Sys., Inc.*, 773 F.3d 1201, 1233 (Fed. Cir. 2014). The Federal Circuit has thus held “[w]hen the accused technology does not make up the whole of the accused product, apportionment is required.” *Finjan, Inc. v. Blue Coat Sys., Inc.*, 879 F.3d 1299, 1309 (Fed. Cir. 2018). “This principle – apportionment – is the governing rule where multi-component products are involved. Consequently, to be admissible, all expert damages opinions must separate the value of the allegedly infringing features from the value of all other features.” *Commonwealth Sci. & Indus.*

1 *Research Organisation v. Cisco Sys., Inc.*, 809 F.3d 1295, 1301 (Fed. Cir. 2015) (“*CSIRO*”). The
 2 apportionment evidence “must be reliable and tangible, and not conjectural or speculative.”
 3 *Garretson v. Clark*, 111 U.S. 120, 121 (1884). “[G]iven the great financial incentive parties have to
 4 exploit the inherent imprecision in patent valuation, courts must be proactive to ensure that the
 5 testimony presented ... is sufficiently reliable to support a damages award.” *CSIRO*, 809 F.3d at
 6 1301.

7 Dr. Striegel’s technical apportionment opinions cannot meet this essential requirement
 8 because they are “plagued by logical deficiencies” and use data that is “not sufficiently tied to the
 9 facts of the case.” *Summit 6, LLC v. Samsung Elecs. Co., Ltd.*, 802 F.3d 1283, 1297 (Fed. Cir. 2015).

10 **II. Dr. Striegel’s Technical Apportionment Opinions Should Be Struck for Two Reasons**

11 **A. Dr. Striegel Failed to Undertake the Necessary Further Apportionment**

12 When an initial apportionment still leaves multiple discrete functions – some of which are
 13 alleged to infringe, others not – then further apportionment is required. *VirnetX, Inc. v. Cisco Sys.,*
 14 *Inc.*, 767 F.3d 1308, 1327 (Fed. Cir. 2014) (“Where the smallest salable unit is, in fact, a multi-
 15 component product containing several non-infringing features with no relation to the patented feature
 16 ... , the patentee must do more to estimate what portion of the value of that product is attributable to
 17 the patented technology.”); *Blue Coat*, 879 F.3d at 1311 (“[I]f the ... smallest identifiable technical
 18 component—contains non-infringing features, additional apportionment is still required.”).

19 As noted above, Dr. Striegel opined that each of his 10 product groups consisted of various
 20 top-level functions and then determined which top-level functions overlap with the Asserted Claims
 21 of the Asserted Patents. Ex. 6 at ¶¶ 111-123. Dr. Striegel confirmed at his deposition that, in
 22 determining whether “overlap” existed, he made no attempt to determine whether the top-level
 23 function he identified *also* included substantial non-patented features that must be apportioned out,
 24 but instead only whether the function “would receive a reasonable benefit from the asserted patents.”
 25 Ex. 9 at 223:17-23; *see also id.* at 54:11-21, 56:17-57:8, 57:24-58:22, 83:12-84:1, 109:16-110:1,
 26 137:19-138:17. Indeed, rather than rigorously avoid the inclusion of substantial non-patented
 27 features, Dr. Striegel testified that he simply sought to determine whether his decision to attribute the
 28 top-level function to a benefit of the patent would “pass a sniff test,” such that the overlap would not

1 be considered “miniscule” or “just minor or an edge case or a niche case that’s almost meaningless.”
 2 *Id.* at 225:12-228:4; *see also id.* at 173:23-174:12 (describing the question as whether it would be
 3 “plausible,” and to confirm for himself that the overlap would be “not just small and miniscule”).
 4 This is a meaningless standard, and is neither reliable nor repeatable. Moreover, by attributing to
 5 Finjan 100% of the benefits of a top-level function merely when the alleged overlap is “not just small
 6 and miniscule,” he did not conduct the further apportionment required by the law to exclude the value
 7 provided by non-accused features within the top-level function. *Blue Coat*, 879 F.3d at 1310-11;
 8 *VirnetX*, 767 F.3d at 1327.

9 To be clear, Dr. Striegel did not even examine the top-level features to see if non-accused or
 10 non-patented functions are present within these top-level functions, much less determine their relative
 11 significance. For example, Dr. Striegel opined that the benefits provided by the ’305 and ’408 Patents
 12 overlap with the top-level function of Comprehensive Wireless Security for SonicWave Access
 13 Points. Ex. 6 at App. D; Ex. 19. The same marketing document that Dr. Striegel relies on to identify
 14 this top-level function also lists 12 sub-features under this one top-level function; Dr. Striegel only
 15 points to one of those 12 sub-features of this top-level feature as overlapping with the patent (in other
 16 words, he lifts one of these 12 sub-features word-for-word, and says nothing about the other 11). Ex.
 17 9 at 260:17-262:20; Ex. 20. Dr. Striegel admitted that he did not render any opinion as to whether
 18 any of the Patents-in-Suit have anything to do with the other 11 features. *Id.* at 265:24-267:22. But
 19 his opinions have the effect of Finjan – via Dr. McDuff’s damages opinions – capturing 100% of the
 20 value of all 12 of these sub-features, even though Dr. Striegel’s actual opinion is only that 1 of the 12
 21 (1/12th of that top-level feature) is implicated by the patent. Likewise, for the Gateways, he concluded
 22 it was “much cleaner” for him to ignore – rather than apportion out – the scores of features listed
 23 under each of his 12 top-level functions. *Id.* at 249:5-251:13; Ex. 21. Dr. Striegel also failed to
 24 apportion numerous other non-accused features: the same datasheet that he relies on to identify 12
 25 top-level functions for the Gateways (Ex. 9 at 147:17-149:5; Ex. 21) includes a page titled “Feature
 26 summary” that contains 12 **different** bolded headings with bulleted sub-features, many of which –
 27 e.g., “Wireless,” “VoIP,” and “SSL/SSH decryption and inspection” – are clearly not accused of
 28 infringement. Dr. Striegel conceded that he made no attempt to map these non-accused features to

1 his top-level functions and, therefore, did not apportion them out. Ex. 9 at 157:14-159:6.

2 **B. Dr. Striegel Did Not Perform the Necessary Analysis to Conduct Apportionment**

3 The substantive failure described above is a direct result of the fundamental defects in Dr.
4 Striegel's methodology. As a matter of basic methodological process, Dr. Striegel did not take the
5 steps required by the law to make his apportionment opinion reliable and tied to the facts of this case.

6 No Knowledge of Finjan's Infringement Allegations. Dr. Striegel admitted having no
7 understanding of the specific product features alleged to infringe each patent, and instead generically
8 assumed that the list of product groups he was provided by counsel infringed. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 9 at 53:8-
9 54:1, 67:8-70:6, 109:5-111:7, 135:2-15, 248:18-249:4, 290:4-291:14. Indeed, he testified that it
10 would simply have been too much work to "go through and check the box" with Finjan's other experts
11 to learn what was actually accused of infringing each patent. *Id.* at 292:19-22. By definition then,
12 Dr. Striegel's technical apportionment opinions are not tied to "the claimed inventions' footprint in
13 the marketplace," nor do they address the "harm caused by infringement of the claimed invention."
14 *ResQNet.com, Inc. v. Lansa, Inc.*, 594 F.3d 860, 869 (Fed. Cir. 2010); *see also Riles v. Shell*
15 *Exploration & Production Co.*, 298 F.3d 1302, 1312 (Fed. Cir. 2002) (excluding damages expert;
16 "model does not account for the actual losses due to infringement of the patented method").

17 On the '968 Patent, for example, Dr. Striegel's apportionment opinion included functionality
18 within products that Finjan admitted it is not accusing. *Compare* Ex. 6 ¶¶ 114, 116 (and App. D
19 thereto) and Ex. 19 (identifying "Content Filtering" as a "top-level function" of the Gateways and
20 AGSS software bundle that maps to a benefit provided by the '968 Patent), *with* Dkt. 320-36 (Finjan's
21 counsel admitting that Content Filtering is not accused). This failure to understand what Finjan
22 actually accuses of infringement permeates the entirety of Dr. Striegel's apportionment analysis. Ex.
23 6 ¶¶ 114-123. His opinions should be struck on this basis alone.

24 No Knowledge of the State of the Art to Assess Incremental Improvement. Dr. Striegel
25 admitted that he "did not attempt to identify the incremental value" that the patented invention adds
26 to the end product – despite this being a legal requirement for apportionment. Ex. 9 at 139:14-23;
27 *Ericsson*, 773 F.3d at 1233. He further made no effort to isolate the value of the patented
28 improvement found in the accused products or identify the incremental improvement that the patent

brings over the prior art. *Id.* at 139:24-141:2. Indeed, he confirmed he “was not asked to assess the prior art.” *Id.* These failures led Dr. Striegel to capture on Finjan’s behalf value that Dr. Striegel himself conceded was present in the prior art. For example, as to the Gateways, Dr. Striegel opined that the “top-level function” of “RFDPI Engine” “overlaps” with the benefits of the ’844, ’494, and ’926 Patents merely because it is involved in “receiving” network traffic. *See, e.g.,* Ex. 6 ¶ 114. But he admitted that receiving network traffic is a component of *all* networks and is not a function whose value can be attributed to the patents-in-suit. Ex. 9 at 150:4-12. As another example, he captured on Finjan’s behalf value provided by functionality found in unasserted Claim 1 of the ’305 Patent (from which asserted claims 11 and 12 depend), because he was unaware that Claim 1 had been cancelled. *Id.* at 116:25-117:5, 120:2-20, 121:6-122:7. Attributing to Finjan the value of functionality present in the prior art is the exact opposite of what the governing principles of apportionment require.

Dr. Striegel went so far as to attribute to Finjan 100% of the value of SonicWall’s patented security processing known as “Reassembly-Free Deep Packet Inspection” (or “RFDPI”). Ex. 6 ¶ 114. Specifically, he admitted that “DPI would have been around for quite some time,” “Finjan did not invent the DPI portion” of RFDPI, and none of the Patents-in-Suit “focus on the aspects of doing [DPI] in a manner as espoused by the RFDPI in the sense of the reassembly-free version of DPI that SonicWall touts as a top-level feature.” Ex. 9 at 251:15-21. Nevertheless, Dr. Striegel opined that SonicWall’s “[REDACTED]” of the Gateways (Ex. 6 ¶¶ 91) that maps to the benefits provided by all 8 of the Patents-in-Suit (*id.* ¶ 114) and, therefore, he attributed 100% of the value of that function to Finjan. This is improper. *Exmark Mfg. Co. v. Briggs & Stratton Power Products Grp., Inc.*, 879 F.3d 1332, 1350 (Fed. Cir. 2018) (where defendant owns patents on the accused functionality, the patentee must do more than conclude these patented “components do not affect the value of the accused mower,” because that “amounts to nothing more than speculation.”).

The Court should strike paragraphs 86-123 of Dr. Striegel’s report and preclude Dr. Striegel from offering these opinions. Because Dr. McDuff relies on Dr. Striegel as the sole basis for apportionment, Dr. McDuff’s opinions should similarly be excluded. *See NetFuel, Inc. v. Cisco Sys., Inc.*, No. 5:18-cv-02352-EJD, 2020 WL 1274985, *10-*11 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 17, 2020); *AVM Techns., LLC v. Intel Corp.*, No. 15-33-RGA, 2017 WL 1536390, *4-*5 (D. Del. Apr. 27, 2017).

1 Dated: March 4, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of **SONICWALL INC.’S MOTION TO EXCLUDE DR. STRIEGEL’S TECHNICAL APPORTIONMENT OPINIONS AND DR. MCDUFF’S RELIANCE THEREON** was served by ECF on all counsel of record on March 4, 2021.

/s/ Nicole E. Grigg
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